



**December 4, 2003**

## **Providence man is charged with heroin trafficking**

A federal grand jury has charged **Juan Rosado-Rivera**, of Providence, with heroin trafficking.

Providence Police and Drug Enforcement Administration agents arrested Rosado-Rivera last month.

The Office of the United States Attorney, Colonel Dean Esserman, Chief of the Providence Police Department, and Mark R. Trouville, Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration, jointly announced a five-count indictment, which the grand jury returned yesterday in U.S. District Court, Providence. Rosado-Rivera, 42, of 188-190 Sterling Avenue, will be brought into U.S. District Court on December 10 for arraignment. He is detained at the Wyatt Federal Detention Center, Central Falls.

The indictment supplants a federal complaint, which was lodged on November 10 against Rosado-Rivera under another name he goes by, Benjamin DeLeon. According to a DEA affidavit supporting the complaint, an undercover Providence detective bought heroin from Rosado-Rivera, on three occasions in October. On November 7, Rosado-Rivera met with the undercover detective in a parking lot on Eddy Street, allegedly to sell him 340 grams of heroin. Agents who had staked out the area arrested him.

Two vehicles were seized as a result of the investigation – a 1999 silver Mercedes Benz and a 1999 Ford Explorer, both of which Rosado-Rivera allegedly used when making the drug transactions charged in the complaint and indictment.

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The indictment charges Rosado-Rivera with conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute heroin. It also charges him with three counts of distributing heroin – on October 2, October 9, and October 30 – and with one count of possessing with intent to distribute heroin on November 7, when he was arrested

An indictment or complaint is merely an allegation and a defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty. Upon conviction, the statutory maximum penalty for conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute heroin and for distributing heroin, as charged in this indictment, is 20 years in federal prison and a \$1,000,000 fine. Upon conviction, the statutory maximum penalty for possessing with intent to distribute heroin, as charged in this indictment, is 40 years in prison and a \$2,000,000 fine, with a mandatory minimum of five years in prison. Exact sentencing for any defendant convicted would be determined on the basis of federal sentencing guidelines, which take into account such factors as the specific nature and impact of an offense and a defendant's criminal background, if any.

**Providence Police** and the **Drug Enforcement Administration** investigated the case.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Kenneth P. Madden is prosecuting it.

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Contact: 401-528-5224

E-mail: [thomas.connell@usdoj.gov](mailto:thomas.connell@usdoj.gov)